

1 RESOLUTION

2 of the

3 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION BOARD

4 of the

5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

6 of the

7 MID-REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OF NEW MEXICO

8 (R-05-04 MTB)

9 **LEGISLATIVE PROJECT PRIORITIES**

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11 WHEREAS, the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) is an association
12 of the local governments located within State Planning and Development District 3
13 which encompasses Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance, and Valencia Counties; and

14 WHEREAS, the MRCOG acts as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
15 for the Albuquerque Metropolitan Planning Area (AMPA), which includes portions of
16 Sandoval and Valencia County, all of Bernalillo County, and the municipalities of the
17 Town of Bernalillo, City of Rio Rancho, Village of Corrales, City of Albuquerque, Village
18 of Los Ranchos, Village of Tijeras, and Village of Los Lunas; and

19 WHEREAS, the MPO is responsible for addressing regional transportation needs
20 in the AMPA; and

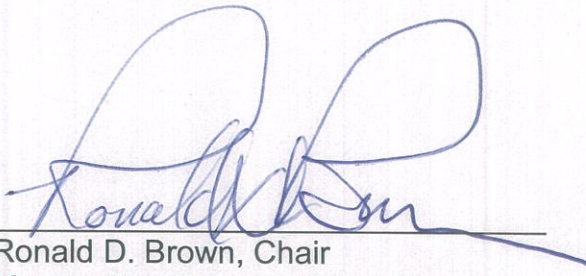
21 WHEREAS, the AMPA contains a substantial portion of the population and jobs
22 in the State of New Mexico; and

1 WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Board (MTB) is composed of
2 elected officials representing the local governments within the AMPA; and

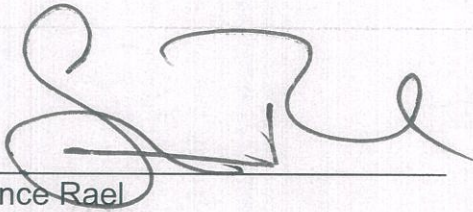
3 WHEREAS, the MTB has identified transportation projects in the AMPA that it will
4 support during the 2005 State Legislative Session.

5 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Metropolitan Transportation Board
6 of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Region Council of Governments of New Mexico that
7 it supports funding for the transportation projects in the Albuquerque Metropolitan
8 Planning Area as listed in Attachment A.

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11 PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 27th day of January 2005 by the
12 Metropolitan Transportation Board of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Region Council
13 of Governments of New Mexico.

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Ronald D. Brown, Chair
Metropolitan Transportation Board

21 ATTEST:

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Lawrence Rael
Executive Director

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION BOARD TRANSPORTATION PROJECT LIST

REGIONAL PROJECTS

- Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). Intelligent Transportation Systems save lives, time and money. The Albuquerque urban area is the only large metro area in the country without an ITS system. Funding is needed for implementation of critical ITS elements along the interstate. This should include \$1 million for development of an initial ITS Communications Center in Albuquerque.
- Commuter Rail. Commuter rail service between Belen and Bernalillo will be in place late this year. This service is expected to provide a modal alternative to I-25 and to act as the first link in the rail service that will eventually connect to Santa Fe. However, funding is needed to assure operation and maintenance beyond the near term. Approximate cost: \$10 million/year
- Light Rail. The MTB encourages the implementation of light rail as an alternative to increased congestion due to the use of private vehicles. We support the creation of a funding source for local governments to access as they implement light rail projects.
- Finance Local Infrastructure. Governor Richardson's Investment Partnership (GRIP) provided funding for key State transportation facilities. However, infrastructure needs at the local level continue to outstrip revenue sources. The MTB supports the concept of a "GRIP II" that would provide city, county, and tribal governments with funding to address critical infrastructure needs at the local level.

LOCAL PROJECTS

- Landscaping (City of Albuquerque/NMDOT). Completion of the Interstate 40/Interstate 25 interchange has created a landmark in the center of the Albuquerque urban area. However, the effectiveness of the design is marred by the lack of landscaping. Approximate cost: \$3 million
- University Extension (Bernalillo County/City of Albuquerque). The planned community development at Mesa del Sol is a model of balanced land use planning and a source of economic potential for the urban area. However, transportation linkages into Mesa del Sol are almost nonexistent at this time. It is critical that this important link be constructed in a timely manner. Approximate cost: \$4 million

- I-25/Tramway (Sandia Pueblo/NMDOT). This interchange is an important link in the urban area transportation network. Reconstruction now will provide for current and future traffic needs. Additional funds are needed to supplement the Federal special appropriation already set aside for this project. Approximate cost: \$18 million
- Paseo del Norte at Jefferson and Interstate 25 (Albuquerque/NMDOT). Paseo del Norte is a major east-west arterial that enables traffic to flow between the east and west portions of the urban area. However, this facility does not function as efficiently as it could due to traffic constraints at Jefferson and at the Interstate. These bottlenecks will only get worse over time, so it is important to address these critical junctures with this facility now. Approximate cost: \$145 million
- Paseo del Volcan in Rio Rancho (Rio Rancho). Rio Rancho has identified this facility as key to the development of a new downtown and the economic future of the City. Funds are needed to continue construction of this major principal arterial, enhancing traffic circulation and economic development. Approximate cost: \$3.2 million
- Los Lunas Intermodal Facility (Los Lunas). This facility will be the only facility in Valencia County. It will provide an important connection between the Los Lunas public transportation network and Commuter Rail service. Funding is needed to enable full construction of this project. Approximate cost: \$3.3 million